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**Thursday**

March 9, 1989

# Valley Star

Van Nuys, California

Serving Valley College for 40 years

Vol. 40, No. 18

## NEWS BRIEFS

### OBITUARY

### KVCM DJ dies

Richard Atkins, better known as "Rockin' Randy Atkins" of radio station KVCM at Valley College, was killed in a motorcycle accident in Encino Sunday at 2:15 a.m. Atkins, 25, was driving at a high speed and was not wearing a helmet.

Atkins began studying broadcasting in Spring of 1988, when he joined KVCM as traffic director. This semester he was promoted to program director.

Funeral services for Atkins will be held today at 1:45 p.m. at Hillside Memorial.

Alan Tomlinson of the Associated Student Union is presenting a St. Patrick's Day concert Friday, March 17, at 1 p.m. in the Free Speech Area in Atkins' honor.

[The Star will publish a profile on Atkins in next week's issue.]

### CAMPUS

### Career Education Week begins

The Career Center is sponsoring events for Career Education Week next Tuesday through Thursday, March 14-16. All students and faculty are welcome to attend. Programs are available in the Administration Lobby.

### Faculty bios due

Today and Friday are the last two days for all regular full-time faculty and certified administrators to have their pictures taken for *Focus on the Faculty*.

*Focus on the Faculty* is a publication put out by the journalism department featuring photos of the faculty and their individual accomplishments.

Friday is the deadline for all of the professional biographies to be turned in. The biographies must be returned to Business-Journalism 112 or Dr. Mary Lee's office.

### Student Trustee to be elected

Applications for the Los Angeles Community College District Student Trustee are available in the Office of Student Affairs, Campus Center 100.

Applications must be returned by April 3. The election will be April 11 and 12 at each campus.

The student body at each of the nine LACCD colleges will elect one candidate. In May, the trustee will be chosen from the nine candidates by the Associated Student Body president and one randomly-chosen elector from each college.

The term of office is one year. The student trustee receives a \$500 per month stipend.

## Reform bill funds under expectations

 By CATHERINE PHILLIPS  
Staff Writer

Funding for AB 1725, the "community college reform bill," is more than \$50 million under expectations for its first year of implementation since it went into effect in January 1989.

The California Community Colleges anticipated \$70 million in funding for the first year, said Ann Reed, vice chancellor of public affairs in the Sacramento office.

So far, AB 1725 has received \$6 million toward implementation for the period January to July 1989.

Reed said the governor proposed \$7 million toward AB 1725 for the 1989-90 year when he announced his proposed budget for the coming fiscal year.

It will become clear in May, when the governor's final budget is announced, what amount is to be given for further implementation of the bill, which has a price tag of \$150 million.

Reed said the amount given so far is "minimal," and CCC still hopes for extra funding. "We're looking for an additional commitment for July," said Reed.

Reed said the governor promised funding when he signed the bill.

AB 1725 signals the end of a self-study era for the community colleges and is intended to be a blueprint for the next century. It is the most important bill to reform

the California community college system since 1960.

AB 1725 defines the "dual mission" of the community colleges—to prepare students for either a baccalaureate degree or a vocational career. The role of community colleges as a provider of community services has been relegated to low-priority.

Chancellor David Mertes of the CCC has said the state must strengthen its commitment to the "dual mission" by guaranteeing that every qualified student transferring from a community college will have a place in a four-year institution.

The "dual mission" statement has been left up to the individual districts to implement.

The districts are able to begin working on this provision at once because it does not require extensive funding to ensure equal instruction in academic and vocational subjects, said Tom Nussbaum, vice chancellor for legal affairs at the California Association of Community Colleges annual convention.

Regarding affirmative action, Mertes called the years ahead an era of implementation of true integration, rather than one which merely passes anti-discrimination legislation. Mertes said the bill recognizes that "ours is a diverse and multicultural society."

By the year 2005, the work force of all community colleges must reflect the state-wide adult popula-

tion. By the 1992-93 academic year, 30 percent of all newly-hired employees must be members of underrepresented groups.

"It cannot be overstated how much affirmative action is woven into the fabric of this bill," said Nussbaum at the CACC convention.

In Mertes' address to the CACC last November, the chancellor called AB 1725 an outline, proposed by the state legislature, that answers the question of what role community colleges should play in our society.

Average daily attendance will no longer be used as a determinant of local college funding. Program-based funding will enable colleges to better provide for the future, said Mertes.

A standard ratio for full-time to part-time faculty has been set by AB 1725.

Full-time teachers must make up 75 percent of the faculty, with part-time faculty constituting the remainder of the teaching staff.

Staff development, in order to bring faculty up to date with the latest advances, is another goal of AB 1725's reforms.

Some teachers, employed 16 to 20 years without leaving the classroom, will be more effective if the bill's aims are achieved, said Reed.

Reed said the bill also describes the governance structure of the CCC, from the Board of Governors down to local district board of trustees.

Maybe next year...



CARLOS DIAZ / Valley Star

Ruth Aguilar (42) is surrounded by her opponents. The Lady Monarchs lost 80-56.

See page 4

## Trustee candidates seek support at Valley

 By KATHI JOHNSON  
News Editor

Issues concerning timely contract settlements and the need for a viable funding base for community colleges were discussed when Althea Baker and Rose Matsui Ochi addressed the faculty at Valley College Monday.

The two candidates were here to enlist support in their campaigns for seats 6 and 2, respectively, of the LACCD board of trustees.

More timely settlements of faculty contract negotiations within six weeks or less and fewer contract grievances are among the goals Baker hopes to attain if she is elected.

Ochi hopes to change the district's financial situation with increased revenue and enrollment for community colleges if she is elected.

Trustees Wallace Albertson and Arthur Bronson currently hold the seats that will be up for election this spring.

Albertson said in a press release, dated Jan. 13, that she will not run for seat 6 in the election because she is pursuing a career in film production.

Bronson decided not to run for re-election, after an 18-year tenure, to pursue other interests.

Seat 4 is also up for election though incumbent Trustee Lindsey Conner is running unopposed.

All seven incumbent trustees endorse the campaigns of Baker and Ochi, said Baker.

The American Federation of Teachers College Guild (AFT) en-

dorses the two candidates though, according to the December issue of *Read On*, a monthly newsletter published for the AFT, they will not endorse incumbent board members seeking re-election.

AFT decided not to endorse incumbents because of their past performances pertaining to teacher and classified employee issues, said Dr.



Althea Baker

*"I will put the emphasis back where it belongs, on serving the students."*

Alice Clement, the executive secretary of the faculty unit for the AFT guild.

If the two are elected this spring, they will join Trustee Julia Wu as the only female board members. "With three women on the board, we will be able to address women's issues," she said.

Baker is also an advocate of minority rights and affirmative action programs, and plans to continue Albertson's dedication toward such goals. "I think I can clearly fill her shoes in that area," said Baker.

Other areas Baker intends to concentrate on include student success and faculty excellence. "Students are the first priority," she said in a campaign flyer distributed during Monday's meeting.

"I will put the emphasis back where it belongs, on serving the students," she said.

Baker negotiated the new faculty retirement incentive that requires 100 faculty members to resign before March 31, with intentions of retiring.

"It is a good package, with good incentives for retirement," she said.

The candidate contends that a quality education depends upon faculty excellence. She said she would like to see instructors continue to teach as long as they wish, although she believes the LACCD needs young faculty members with new ideas.

"I will encourage and promote professionalism with incentives for professors seeking new and innovative teaching methods," she said.

Ochi contends that faculty,

students, administrators and district personnel should all be active in the decision-making and governance policies of community colleges.

"I am a firm believer in participatory management," she said.

She would like to see students participate in this election. Their votes can make a difference, she said.



Rose Ochi

*"I will make certain that the priority . . . is education, not administration."*

"Students are the priority," said Ochi. Her general goal is to promote improved educational opportunities through budget reform. "I will make certain that the priority for the district in terms of budget is education, not administration," she said.

Ochi has set her sights on tailoring a financing scheme similar to the program budgeting of higher education institutions. She denounces the average daily attendance budget program of community colleges and says, "It does not work."

Both candidates are against faculty layoffs and, according to *Read On*, both have said they would not vote for layoffs for any reason.

"The faculty has suffered greatly from horrendous layoffs . . . this demonstrates poor management and planning," said Ochi.

Ochi is an executive assistant to Mayor Tom Bradley and the director of Criminal Justice Planning, Los Angeles.

Baker is a local attorney and the department chairwoman of counseling at Los Angeles Mission College. She has recently resigned as faculty guild chief negotiator and executive board member of the AFT to concentrate on her campaign.

Elections for seats 2, 4 and 6 of the board of trustees will be on the primary ballot this spring. The deadline for registration is March 11. Students may register to vote in the faculty mailroom for the April 11 election.



STAR EDITORIAL

# 911—Emergency calls—access denied

With the exception of pay phones, telephones at Valley College currently have access blocked to 911 Emergency calls by Campus Police.

When emergency medical care is needed, Campus Police must be called. They will then send out an officer to investigate; if they decide that it is needed, they will then place the call to 911 Emergency.

The Los Angeles City Fire Department will dispatch Fire Station 102 when the call is placed. Even though Station 102 is directly across the street from Valley College, they do not have a paramedic unit.

The nearest paramedic unit is at Fire Station 39 at Van Nuys Boulevard and Sylvan Street. It takes approximately three minutes for the paramedic unit to get to Valley running with full lights and sirens.

If Fire Station 102 is unable to answer the call, then it will be re-routed to Station 39. If Station 39 is busy, Station 78, on Coldwater Canyon Avenue near Moorpark Avenue, will



take the call.

Victims in need of further care will be taken to the nearest hospital, the Medical Center of North Hollywood. If they cannot be taken there, then the paramedics will try the other area hospitals in the following order: Sherman Oaks Community, Valley Receiving, then Valley Presbyterian.

If the victims is a trauma case, they will go to Saint Joseph's Hospital in Burbank. The Fire Department states that the Medi-Vac

helicopters are used only if there is going to be a delay of 20 minutes or more in the transporting of the victim to the hospital, which the Fire Department considers to be the critical time for victim transportation.

According to the Los Angeles Police Department, it is not illegal for the 911 Emergency access to be blocked.

The 911 Emergency may be blocked due to the phone system at Valley, because a direct outside line is needed to place the call. Or it

may be blocked to "control" the excess of non-emergency calls.

There are other phone numbers that can be called in the case of an emergency, but that is not the point behind the 911 Emergency number. It was created because it was simple and easy to remember during a time of crisis.

The LAFD has 2 emergency numbers set up in the San Fernando Valley: 785-2151 for fire emergencies and 785-2154 for ambulance assistance. The phone number for emergency police calls is 787-1122.

During a crisis, people have a hard time remembering their name, let alone a seven-digit phone number; that is why 911 Emergency was created.

If emergency medical care is needed on campus, it should be possible for 911 Emergency to be called. We shouldn't have to go through Campus Police or run to a pay phone.

Something must be done to change all of this. 911 Emergency was created in order to stop the confusion and save valuable time.

## 'Brand X' college

# How does Valley rate?

By S. CLOVER PHALEN  
Staff Writer

I overheard a couple of college students discussing their schools the other day. One was quite proud of his school's distinguished name. When the other one was asked where he went, he replied, "Just Valley College." I wonder where the "just" came from.

I'm currently taking 14 units. Two of my professors hold Ph.D.s in the subjects they teach. Two others have over 20 years teaching experience and at least as many years of education themselves.

All of these teachers are interested, interesting and, possibly more important, accessible. They have regular office hours and are always willing to help a student with a problem.

And guess where many of those teachers attained their degrees? Yes, those same distinguished schools of which our one student was so proud. Is this "just Valley College?"

At the beginning of the semester, I paid the \$50 enrollment fee. Even including parking fees and books, I'm paying less than \$12 a week for all of this experience.

The students I've encountered at Valley are, for the most part, wonderful. My algebra professor remarked that although he teaches full-time at another university, he also teaches night classes at Valley, because the students are so motivated that he enjoys the experience.

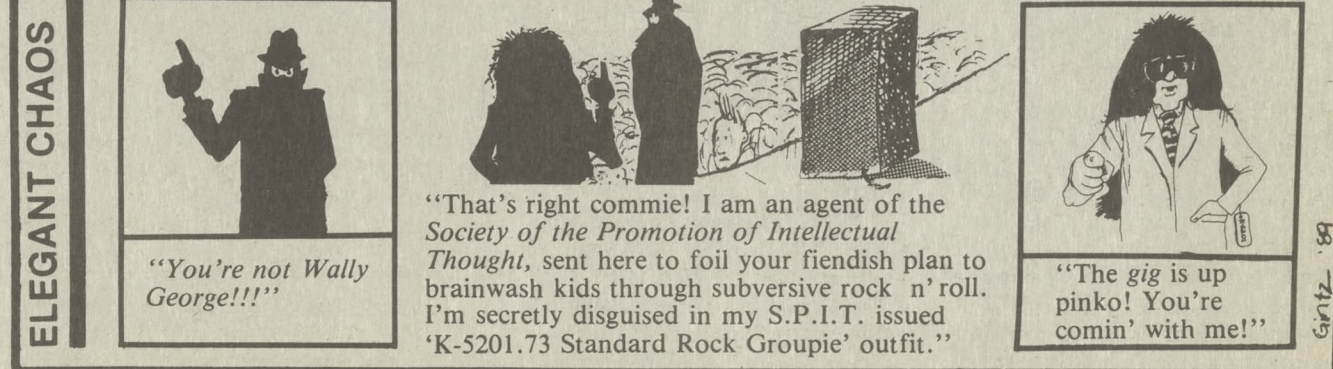
I think that sums it up beautifully. Sure, there are some students that still act like they're in high school. But for every one of them there are five to 10 students who really appreciate an excellent and affordable education.

And, in case you think I've been lucky so far, I've been attending Valley for several years. During this time the vast majority of the teachers I've worked with have had extensive credentials and experience. And I do mean worked with.

I wonder if the student at the "name brand" university ever put together a Spring Arts Festival, an English Tea Party, or a Manuscript magazine with his professors. How much personal contact and inspiration does he get at his school?

Now, I'm not degrading the four-year universities at all. In fact, having earned my associate of arts degree, I'm heading for one. There are, of course, some things that a two-year school just can't provide.

But when I leave Valley, I'll leave it sadly. And when someone asks me about my previous school, I will always be proud of Valley.



## Movies aren't 'Big' anymore

By MITZI SZERETO  
Staff Writer

Am I the only person who sees anything awry with our local movie theaters? Don't they seem to be getting smaller?

I am referring to the destruction of our large screen theaters by slicing them into multi-plexes and those living-room-sized theaters in cineplexes which are becoming so prevalent in our city.

I have always held an elitist view that the only place worth going to see a film was Westwood. But as of late, I have had to eat those words.

Going to Westwood was almost a ritual. One could make an entire evening of it—visit the shops, delight in the cuisine and relax in a comfortable theater with a gigantic screen and great sound.

This was exactly my intention one recent holiday weekend. The film I originally wanted to see was playing at the Plitt in Century City. I was so excited. I remember how awesome it was seeing *Star Wars* there, even though I couldn't stand the movie.

My fellow film-going friend for the evening informed me that the Plitt had been split into smaller theaters. Outraged, I flatly refused to see the film and instead opted for another one that was playing in Westwood Village. I was sure that anything showing in Westwood would at least be in a normal sized venue.

So off we drove to the Village, searched valiantly for parking, paid the ransom, and set off to buy tickets in advance of the show. I interrogated the man in the ticket booth to make sure that our film was being shown on a regular sized screen, and he assured me that it was.

My friend and I then trekked over to Yesterday's for dinner, window shopped for a while, and went back to the theater. The crowd was

already starting a queue, but we didn't have to wait long as the surly, but charitable ticket-taker finally consented to let us in out of the cold to use the ladies room.

Finally the moment arrived—we could go into the theater area. Now, I must explain that I had been to this particular Mann cinema complex before. I knew it had more than one theater in it, but it had been built that way and was very large to my recollection.

Well, I was in for quite a shock. Evidently someone with infinite wisdom and capitalistic greed, had taken a once substantial twin cinema and converted it into three.

The center aisle was where the best view was to be had, if one didn't mind sitting on the floor, and the chopped-off screen tended to slant off to the left.

By this time I was really fuming, but my friend kept assuring me that it wasn't so bad. She said it was the same size as the new Universal City cineplex; I'd get used to it.

We proceeded to look for some decent seats, but they all seemed to be defective. Every time we sat down our seat bottoms would hit the floor. After much trial and error, we finally settled in.

The movie, a drama, began but unfortunately so did the action-packed adventure showing next door. Throughout the film we could hear its frenzied music through the wall and feel the vibrations beneath our feet.

It got to the point where we had to strain to hear our film's dialog. I looked around, but no one seemed at all perturbed by this phenomenon. They all to be absorbed in eating their foul-smelling imitation-buttered popcorn.

Thank heavens our movie finally ended and nursing our stiff necks, we returned to the car. All the way

home I lamented over the death of the wide screen. Is nothing sacred anymore?

Of course I realize that there are still some theaters in existence that haven't yet been deflowered, but this slicing business tends to sneak up on you, and the theater you went to last week may not be the same this week. So much for Westwood snobbery.

I've tried to rationalize whether this desecration may serve some ultimate purpose other than that of the theater owner's greed. I suppose it might provide some social value to society.

For instance, if the movie *Colors* was being shown on a small screen as opposed to a large one, we wouldn't have to see Sean Penn gigantically looming in front of us, thus saving ourselves from intense feelings of nausea.

Additionally, perhaps a truly awful film wouldn't seem quite so bad, if it were viewed in smaller dimensions. Therefore, we couldn't be absolutely positive we had just wasted our money.

All this has made me a lot more reliant upon my trusty VCR. It's a lot cheaper way to see a movie, a lot more comfortable relaxing on my sofa and I can make my own popcorn with real butter.

Why pay \$6.50 to see a movie on screen that doesn't seem much larger than my own television set? The only drawback is that after the tape is over, inevitably there's nothing worth watching on TV, and it's too early to go to bed!

Maybe we should hold candlelight vigils outside these cinemas to mourn decline of movie theaters in a city that was built on movie making.

I guess, like the microchip, everything is being minitaturized. But, I never would thought Hollywood capable of destroying something so vital to its lifeblood. This unfortunately, is our legacy.

## Letter to the Star

### Today's book prices higher than yesterday's

Editor,

I'm taking a course this semester, Spanish 1, after not having been a college student for about 35 years. I have been ashamed of myself because I have lived in Los Angeles for more than 40 years and didn't know more than a dozen words of Spanish, and these primarily from western movies.

I've made excuses all my life for not learning Spanish, but now my children are grown, I'm retired, and I have the time and money to do as I please, so Valley College here I am.

My first shock was at the bookstore. I was appalled to find

the textbook cost almost \$40, the workbook almost \$20 and a set of the audio tapes that go with the text would have cost an additional \$52.

It was going to take \$112 plus the \$25 registration fee for me to learn the content of Spanish 1 by using three senses: visual, auditory and kinesthetic. I wondered what the teacher was going to do, other than give tests, as I taught myself Spanish.

Is all this expense really essential? Almost all of the courses offered at community colleges are lower division survey or skills courses and nothing changes that much from year to year in either content or method that the newest text must be used.

On the contrary, a well-organized teacher could (and should) prepare his own material and schedule all the classroom time for systematic learning,

rather than expect the students to teach themselves with the material he has selected. I guess I'm lucky because our teacher creates a friendly and supportive ambience for our class meetings.

One of my fellow students figured out that she could photocopy the necessary pages of the text for a third of the cost of the book. And a professional taping company told me that they will duplicate the set of thirteen tapes for less than half of what the learning center sells them for. Why can't the college do something about the material costs?

Are Valley College students so docile that they sit still for this kind of rip-off year after year? For shame!!

M. Stephen Sheldon  
student

## Valley Star

Los Angeles Valley College

Published each Thursday throughout the school year by students in the advanced writing, editing, photography and typesetting classes of the journalism department.

Editorial and Advertising Offices  
5800 Fulton Ave. Van Nuys, CA 91401  
Phone (818) 781-1200, Ext. 275/276  
Advertising Ext. 239

KAREN J. WATERS  
Editor in Chief

JULIE BAILEY  
Advertising Director

Represented by CASS  
Advertising Service  
1633 Central St.  
Evanston, IL 60201

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CPNA Prize-Winning Newspaper:  
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### LETTERS

The Valley Star is happy to receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers.

The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or

make racial, ethnic or religious denigrations.

Letters should be signed and, if applicable, include student's major and ID number. Letters may be presented to the Valley Star office, Bungalow 25, by Monday for the following Thursday.



Stage review

# Spirit of Lennon triumphs

By J. LAWSON BREWER  
Staff Writer

In his directing debut, Dr. Donald Hayes makes the western premiere of James McLure's *The Day They Shot John Lennon* a triumph of the human spirit.

Because of its title, one would think the play is a docu-drama. It isn't. Rather, it is an emotional presentation of one man's legacy.

*The Day They Shot John Lennon* takes place across the street from the Dakota, Lennon's apartment building, after his assassination. A group of 10 people, each of whom represent a different segment of society, gather there and reflect upon how Lennon affected their lives.

Sally, Kevin and Mikey (Christina Williams, Joseph Spencer and Brian Markovitz) are three high school students who face the traumas of being in relationships.

An explosion of love, hate and in-

difference are exchanged through Sally and Kevin's break-up. Mikey, a creative, thinking and loving young man, acts as the mediator between the two.

But Mikey himself also faces a problem; he encounters the lonely feeling of having never experienced a relationship.

Larry and Morris (Michael Syre, Jim O'Donoghue) represent two of the most often-forgotten segments of our society: an urban minority street kid whose horizons are limited because of racism and bigotry, and a neglected old man. Though a generation gap separates the two they eventually fill the distance between young and old with friendship.

Brian (Mark Rickerby), a junior executive yuppie, and Fran (Renee Russele), an overqualified legal secretary, are two people with identity problems who share a bizarre love-hate relationship.

Caught between being a semi-macho bean-head (what he is) and a

sensitive guy (what he's not), Brian's inconsistencies as a man create a conflict between Fran and himself. He just doesn't know how to act.

An avid feminist, Fran's identity problem is caused by the changing times. With the ERA slowly fading out of existence, she has trouble recognizing her womanhood.

Silvio (Chris Arredondo) and Gately (Colin Cunningham) are two Vietnam veterans struggling in a society that has rejected them.

Still bitter from the war, Silvio's outlook on life is filled with anger and hostility. In contrast, Gately is a passive, almost timid young man whose mental capacities are limited. Although their personalities differ and sometimes conflict, both men share the brotherhood of Vietnam.

Hellie (Cathy Kelleher), a homeless person, symbolizes some of the real problems of society: alcohol abuse and people in need of psychological help. Although Hellie's role is relatively small, it is

crucial to the play.

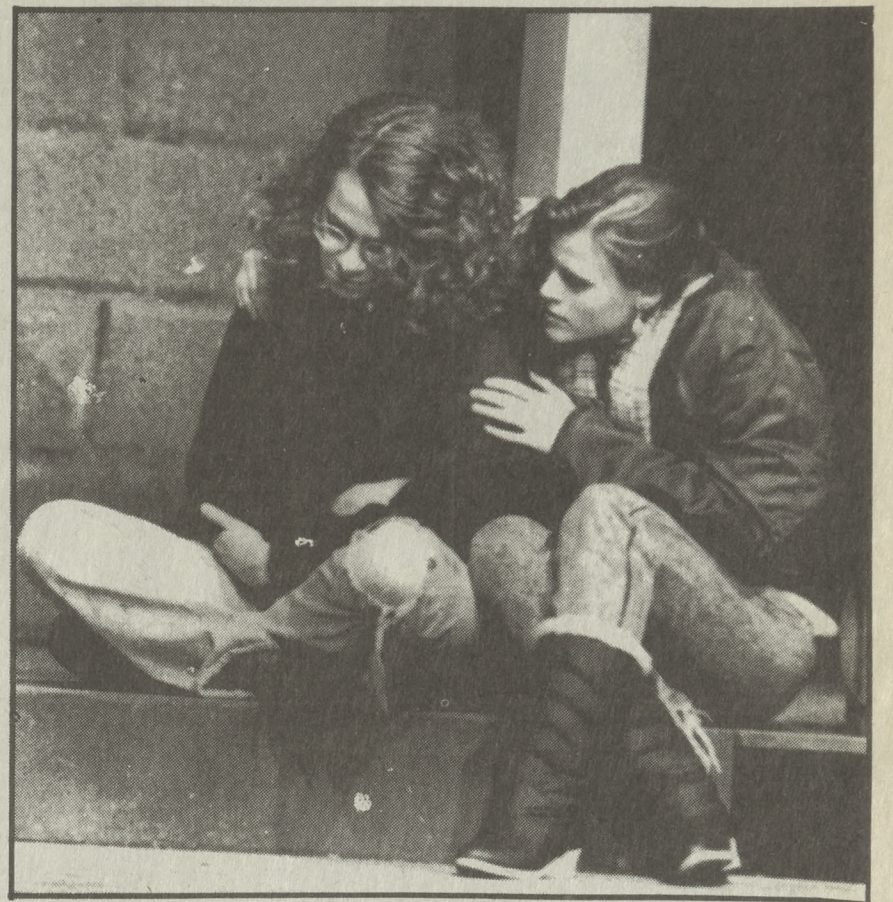
Throughout the play Lennon's memory and music take on a Christ-like quality. It is a recurring reminder of what Lennon represented: love, friendship and equality.

All of the actors' performances were good. But it would be unfair not to note the excellent acting talents of Arredondo and Cunningham with their portrayal of the Vietnam vets; each brought depth and realism to their character.

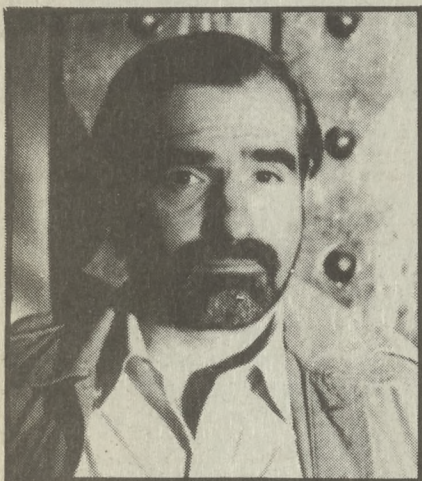
A diversity of themes: relationships, prejudice, loneliness, poverty and the Vietnam war, make McLure's play a bit unconventional.

But despite these depressing themes, *The Day They Shot John Lennon* is not downbeat. Comic relief, uplifting music and a redeeming ending makes the play an enjoyment to see.

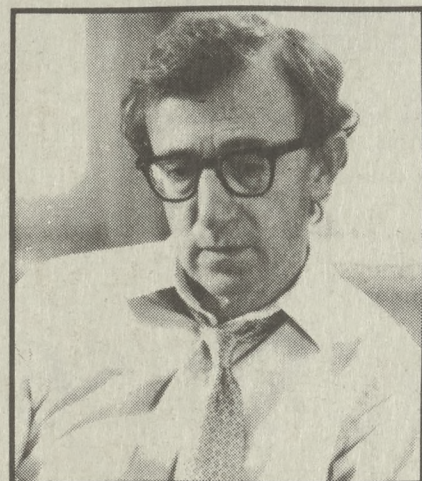
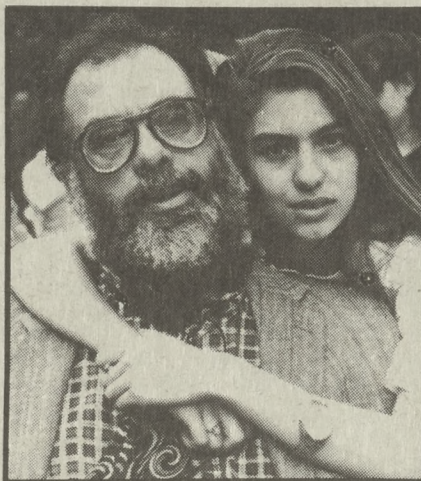
The last three performances of *The Day They Shot John Lennon* can be seen today, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. at LAVC's Mainstage theater.



Sally (Christina Williams) consoles Mikey (Brian Markovitz) in front of the Dakota in *The Day They Shot John Lennon*.  
AARON COHEN/Valley Star



The three wise men (and one wise woman) of *New York Stories*: director Martin Scorsese, writer/director Francis Coppola with his co-writer and daughter Sofia, and writer/director Woody Allen.



## Aesop delights

By CATHERINE PHILLIPS  
Staff Writer

*Aesop's Fabulous Fable Factory*, put on by Little Broadway Productions, can be compared to vintage Warner Bros. cartoons: the jokes are for adults but expressed by characters kids love.

When Monroe (Karen Detweiler), a 12-year-old girl, wanders into Aesop's factory, the mechanical actors shake off their dust and come alive. The cast enacts various fables for Monroe, who supplies the moral, after she learns what a moral is.

In *Aesop's ... Factory* some of the characters have been modernized. The rabbit from 'The Hare and the Tortoise' raps as he descends into the audience and takes a nap while the tortoise wins the race.

The actors become furniture, including a clock, in 'The Country Mouse and the City Mouse.' Its moral—the only thing better than leaving home is coming home again—still applies to everybody who believes that the grass is greener on the other side.

Aesop, the Greek slave who lived

around 600 B.C., might be a bit surprised at the musical treatment that his fables receive, but they essentially remained unchanged.

The animals in his fables still have human traits, and a lesson is to be learned in each fable.

Aesop's fables have much to delight viewers of all ages; the characters display greed, pomposity and laziness. The actors have no costume changes, using only different voices and props to become the characters.

The *Godspell*-like musical has its flaws, however; many of its show-stopping numbers seem too calculated.

The background music also drowned out the vocals at times, unless the chorus was singing.

However, Monroe's journey into Aesop's factory still evokes a wistful feeling of someone wishing upon a star, never wanting to grow up and come back to reality.

*Aesop's ... Factory*, normally staged for elementary school students, is open to the public on Mar. 12. The price of tickets is \$5.50 for adults and \$3.50 for students.

The play will return to Valley April 11-14. Reservations can be made by calling (818) 990-3232.

## EVENT CALENDAR

### LAVC concert series

Valley's spring concerts begin with a performance by pianists Esther Roth and Judi Stroh today in the Music Recital Hall at 11 a.m.

Upcoming shows include guitarist Neil Smith in the Music Recital Hall Sunday at 7:30 p.m. and the LAVC Symphony Orchestra, Theodore A. Lynn conducting, next Tuesday at 8 p.m. in Monarch Hall.

Admission for the Monarch Hall concert is free; the Smith concert is \$5 for general admission and \$4 for seniors and students.

### Slide series continues

The Earth Science Dept. will present the second in a series of Tuesday slide lectures on Mar. 14 at 1:30 p.m.

Dr. George Stuart will be the lecturer of the show, entitled *The Beauty of Our Western Deserts*.

Admission is free. The show will be in Room 109 of the Math-Science Building.

## N.Y. Stories goes 2 for 3

By DEAN HOTTA  
Entertainment Editor

*New York Stories* is one of those ideas that probably looked great on paper: take three of the most critically-acclaimed directors currently working, set their creative processes onto some short pieces and put their efforts under one umbrella. Brilliant, right?

Well, almost. As the old cliché goes, two out of three ain't bad.

*New York Stories* links three vignettes directed by Martin Scorsese, Francis Coppola and Woody Allen. It's a worthy project; one that allows them to stretch out a bit and not worry about making "artistic statements."

*Life Lessons* opens the trilogy with ace cinematographer Nestor Almendros' camera zooming and zeroing in on Lionel Dobie (Nick Nolte), an artist who finds himself attracted to his assistant, Paulette (Rosanna Arquette).

Dobie's unwavering affection to Paulette is wasted, however; all he does is put a roof over her head. But Dobie persists in the hope that maybe, just maybe, she'll learn to love him.

Under Scorsese's direction Nolte and Arquette turn in their most unaffected work to date. Nolte's Dobie is a temperamental wolf of a man and Arquette is the coquettish Paulette, unsure about her artistic talents and very vulnerable.

The best parts about Coppola's *Life Without Zoe* are its lavish cinematography, handled by Vittorio Storaro, and a humorous turn by Don Novello (Father Guido Sarducci from the old *Saturday Night Live* shows) as Hector, butler to the aforementioned Zoe.

Zoe (Heather McComb) is a 12-year-old girl as precocious as she is rich. She is frequently left to herself while her writer/mother (Talia Shire) and renowned flautist/father Claudio (Giancarlo Giannini) jet-set around the world.

There's a moral somewhere in the story about the importance of a family life, but it gets lost under a storyline that could best be called presumptuous.

*Life Without Zoe* might have worked given more time to develop, but within *New York Stories*' framework it doesn't get fleshed out to the degree that the other stories are.

Allen's *Oedipus Wrecks* is played strictly for belly-laughs of the sort

that harken back to his earlier works.

In *Oedipus Wrecks*, Allen is Sheldon Mills, a Jewish lawyer who is constantly noodled into a state of near-mental collapse by (what else) his mother (Mae Questel).

Taking his girlfriend (Mia Farrow) and his mother out to a magic show, his dreams come true when the magician makes his mother literally vanish into thin air.

Unfortunately for Sheldon, his joy is short-lived when a far worse development occurs. It can't be revealed here; suffice it to say that it is every person's nightmare come to life.

*Oedipus Wrecks* is like a film version of one of Allen's short humor pieces: concise, with no wasted exposition and extremely funny.

Allen, Scorsese and Coppola are all coming off relative critical and financial failures, so it's especially gratifying to see them downscaling back to basic plots and simple stories.

*New York Stories* is the celluloid equivalent of the *Traveling Wilburys* album—it's merely a side project that allows great artists the chance to quit being profound and just entertain; on that count it succeeds.

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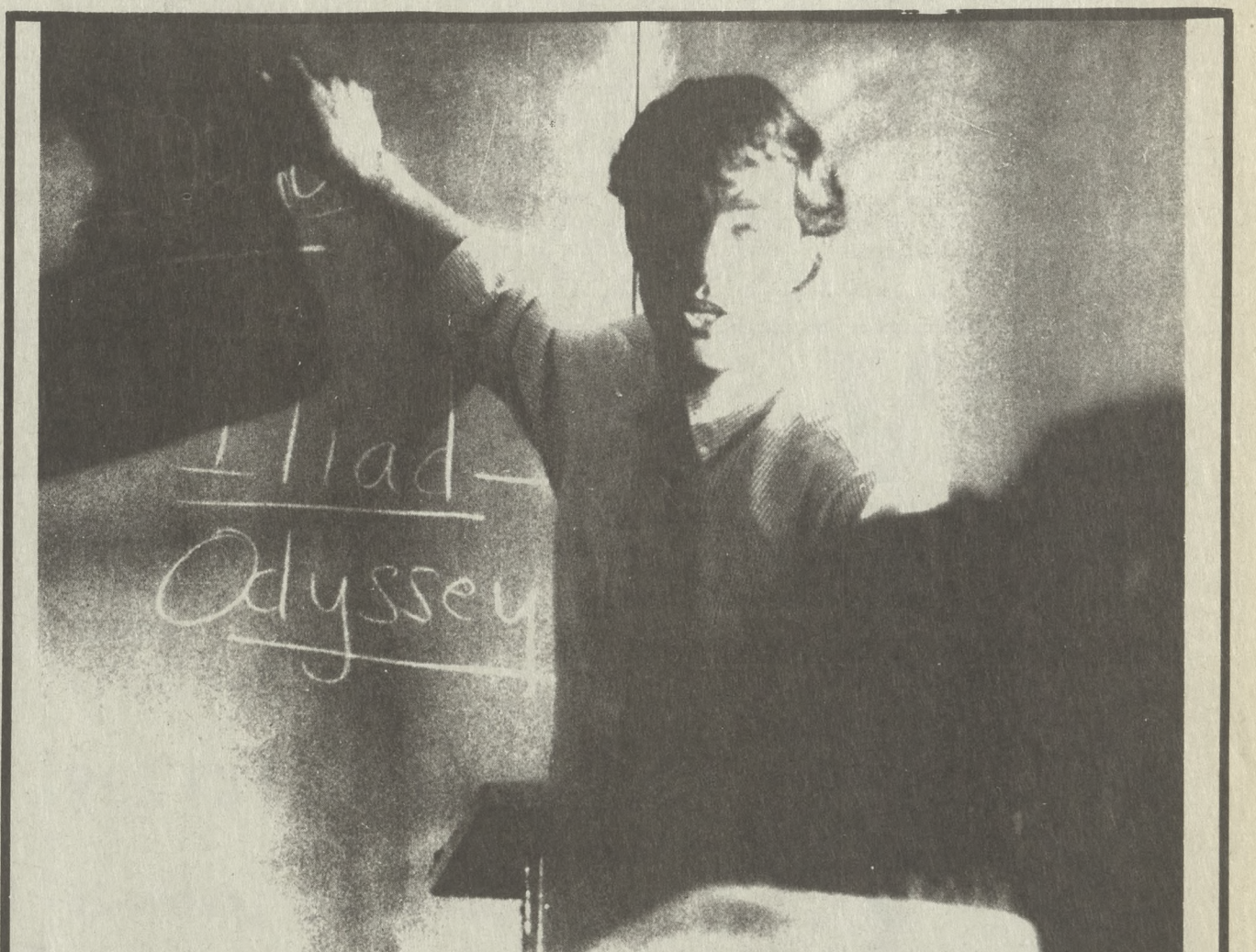
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Valley guards Lettie Carranza (32) and Kim Boldvich (20), experience the pain of losing the state final. Valley finished the year at 30-4. This season's record was

the best in the history of the Lady Monarchs basketball team. Boldvich played her last game for Valley and Carranza will return next season.

## Ladies are State runners-up

# Title hopes fall to River, 80-56

By EDWARD YOON  
Staff Writer

The hopes of capturing their first California Community College Women's Basketball Championship came to an abrupt end for the Lady Monarchs as they were defeated soundly by the Lady Beavers of American River College (Sacramento), 80-56 Saturday.

ARC (29-4), seeded fifth in the Northern Regional, was a slight underdog going into the game due to Valley's home court advantage. They got to the championship game with a thrilling come-from-behind victory over the top-seeded team in the Northern Regionals, the College of the Sequoias. ARC center Samantha Uding scored a last-second basket to beat Sequoias 53-51.

The Lady Monarchs (31-4), seeded third in the Southern Regionals, came into the game with momentum, winning its last 14 games and 21 out of the last 22. This included a close, come-from-behind victory against the top-seeded team in the South, Fullerton College, 70-69 Friday night.

However, the Lady Monarchs could not erase a 46-28 half-time deficit against ARC.

"We were capable of coming back," said Valley Head Coach Doug Michelson. "I told our players to forget about the score and concentrate on fundamentals."

ARC's Head Coach Tami Yasuda, who was aware of Valley's comeback potential, used her tall, deep bench (nine reserves, six players 5' 9" or taller) to keep her starters fresh for the stretch run of the second half.

As a result, the Lady Monarchs look tired, falling behind as much as 25 points. They could not get any closer than 19 points.

"We took advantage of Valley's lack of height," said Uding. "We played with unity and heart."

The Lady Beavers played a tight zone defense, holding the Lady Monarchs to only 20 percent (7 for 34) shooting from the field in the second half. Overall, Valley was held to only 29 percent shooting (16 for 57) and their second-lowest point total of the season, well below their 82.2 points per game average.

"They got up in the first half and came out determined not to lose their lead," said Lady Monarchs' Team Captain Ruth Aguilar. "We were just off and they kept playing hard. We can't be on all the time."

Aguilar, who was often triple-teamed by ARC's front line, finished with 19 points (5 for 13 from the field) and 12 rebounds in her final game as a Lady Monarch.

The Lady Monarch front line of Shagarro Lattin, Karrie Parsons and Sandrine Rocher was swallowed up by the taller front line of the Lady Beavers, converting only two of seven shots. Rocher, averaging 12 points per game, was held to a season-low one point.

Guard Christine Rumfola, coming off an outstanding 22-point performance against Fullerton, hit only four of 16 shots for nine points.

"It took us 35 games to play at this level," Michelson said. "We played 34 games of good basketball before this game. We didn't do any of the things that we had done so well in the first 34 games. We didn't play well in all aspects of the game. We shot poorly and we didn't rebound."

"I've got to give them credit," Michelson added. "They were in the championship finals two of the last three years."

The victory gives ARC their first California Community College Women's Basketball Tournament Championship in the school's history.

## PROFILE: RUTH AGUILAR

By JERRY SAWINSKI  
Assoc. Sports Editor

Growing up in Los Angeles, Ruth Aguilar saw playing basketball as a way of staying out of trouble. She still causes trouble, but now it's only for opponents on the court.

Aguilar, 19, captain of the Lady Monarchs, played her final game last Saturday in Valley's championship game loss to American River College.

In her two years at Valley, Aguilar, along with Shagarro Lattin, Roxanne Owen, Kim Boldvich and Marianne Murphy, has been an integral part of a team that has gone 60-8 in the last two years. This includes a final-four berth last season and this year's appearance in the state final.

Aguilar led the Lady Monarchs in scoring this season, averaging 15 points a game, and was named to the All-Tournament Team.

Aguilar did not even start playing basketball until her sophomore year at Lincoln High, where basketball seemed a good diversion from the streets. "It was something you had to do, said Aguilar. "Either you found something to do or trouble would find you."

That decision started a love affair with the game that continues to this day.

While tough and relentless on the court, off the court Aguilar is articulate and soft-spoken, with an affecting smile that lights up her face, especially when she talks about two of her favorite subjects: basketball and Coach Michelson.

"I love Coach Michelson. There are no words to describe him," said Aguilar. "As a role model he's right up there, [and] whatever he does is what I want to do."

She also described his subtle way of getting her attention on the court, or what she calls "the look".

"I'll be running down the court and I'll look over at Coach and he'll just give me that look as if to say *do* something, and I know I have to raise my game up a level."

Aguilar admitted it was a sad feeling playing her final game at Valley. "I think what hurt more than losing the game was knowing that I was never going to play with these girls again."

Heavily recruited by Cal-State Northridge and Colorado State, Aguilar hasn't decided where she'll transfer to, but she hinted she'd like to stay in California.

"I like to be around my friends and family, I'm not one to go where I'm not known."

Wherever she decides to go, it won't take people long to know who Ruth Aguilar is.

## SWIMMING

By ERIC BARAD  
Staff Writer

Three members of the Monarch swim team set times that qualified for the California State Community College Championship as Valley split their meet with Ventura.

The men won, 52-51, while the women were edged out, 68-60.

The Monarchs next home meet is tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. vs. Pierce.

In the meet with Ventura, Tony Pino, Dave Hale and Tracy Cordobes all set qualifying times.

Pino won the 200-meter butterfly with a time of 2:03.8, Hale won the 50-meter freestyle in :22.3 and Cordobes the individual medley in 2:26.9.

"It was really unusual for them to qualify so early in the season," said Coach Bill Krauss. "We swam better than I expected."

Kim Gaboury won the diving competition for Valley.

Also, Mike Lucero won the 1000-meter freestyle and Stephanie Bair won the 200-meter freestyle with a time of 2:07.9.

## BASEBALL

By CHRIS ARMSTEAD  
Staff Writer

The Monarchs began conference play with a 16-hit attack against the Corsairs of Santa Barbara City College en route to a 6-3 victory Saturday.

Valley (13-1-1 overall, 1-0 in the Western States Conference) will play a road game against Ventura Community College today at 2 p.m. Their next home game will be against Questa College Saturday at 1 p.m.

In the Santa Monica game, Valley second baseman E. J. Pape continued his season-long hot streak with two doubles and a single. He also had two RBI's, giving him a total of 24 for the season.

The Monarchs scored a run in the first inning on a single by Pape. Catcher Eric Vargas hit a solo home run, his first of the season, and outfielder Ray Sabado knocked in third

baseball John Stephens to make the score 3-0.

Valley starter Joey Kane went a strong seven innings, allowing only one run on six hits and striking out eight to pick up his third victory of the season against one loss.

Valley relief pitcher Steve Slattery pitched the final two innings to pick up his third save of the season. It wasn't one of his more impressive outings, giving up single runs in the eighth and ninth innings.

"I wasn't throwing enough strikes," said Slattery, "but I got into the groove and got out of the inning."

"We played very well," said Valley Head Coach Chris Johnson. "It's the first conference game of the year and I'm happy that we got the win."

Stephens had a perfect day, going three-for-three with two singles and a double. Sabado had two hits to increase his hitting streak to 13 consecutive games.

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